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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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Agency Forms Undergoing Paperwork Reduction Act Review

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publishes a list of information collection requests under review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35). To request a copy of these requests, call the CDC Reports Clearance Officer at (404) 639-7570 or send an email to <a href="mailto:omb@cdc.gov">omb@cdc.gov</a>. Send written comments to CDC Desk Officer, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503 or by fax to (202) 395-5806. Written comments should be received within 30 days of this notice.

## Proposed Project

Underreporting of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses by Workers
- New - National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
(NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

## Background and Brief Description

In 2008, the Congressional Committee on Education and Labor released the report, "Hidden Tragedy: Underreporting of

Workplace Injuries and Illnesses," indicating "that work-related injuries and illnesses in the United States are chronically and even grossly underreported." Based in part on the report's results, Congress allocated funds for NIOSH to conduct a follow-up study using NIOSH's occupational supplement to the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS-Work) to estimate underreporting among individuals who seek care at an emergency department (ED) for an occupational illness, injury, or exposure.

Objectives for this project are to (1) assess the reporting behavior of workers that are injured, ill, or exposed to a harmful substance at work; (2) characterize the chronic aspects of work-related injuries or illnesses; and (3) estimate the prevalence of work-related chronic injuries and illnesses among United States workers treated in EDs. Particular attention will be paid to self-employed workers, workers with work-related illnesses, and workers with chronic health problems.

Data collection for the telephone interview survey will be done via a questionnaire containing questions about the respondent's injury, illness, or exposure that sent them to the ED; the characteristics of the job they were working when they were injured, became ill, or were exposed; their experiences

reporting their injury, illness, or exposure to the ED and their employer (if applicable); the presence of an underlying chronic condition that was associated with their ED visit; and the nature of any other work-related chronic conditions they have experienced. The questionnaire was designed to take 30 minutes to complete and includes a brief series of questions to screen out individuals who were not seen in the ED for a work-related injury, illness, or exposure; who are younger than age 20 or older than age 64; who do not speak English or Spanish; or who were working as volunteers or day laborers when the injury, illness, or exposure occurred or was made worse.

Approximately 1,500 to 3,000 interviews will be completed over the two year period. The only cost to the respondent will be the cost of their time spent on the phone completing the telephone interview survey. The total estimated burden hours are 750.

## Estimated Annualized Burden Hours

Respondents	No. of	No. of	Average
	Respondents	Responses	Burden per
		per	Response
		Respondent	(in hours)
		_	00/50
U.S. workers	1,500	1	30/60
presenting to			
an emergency			
department			

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